

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 CAB-09 COME-00 DOTE-00

EB-11 FAA-00 SR-02 ORM-03 DRC-01 NIC-01 NEA-14 EA-11

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FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1781

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL CURACAO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, ELAB, NL, NS

SUBJECT: EXODUS TO HOLLAND

REF: THE HAGUE 3976

1. WE ESTIMATE THAT CONTINUING HEAVY EMIGRATION OF SURINAMERS TO HOLLAND NOW RUNNING AT APPROXIMATELY 2000 PERSONS PER MONTH. FIGURE STRIKES ROUGH BALANCE BETWEEN HIGHER AND LOWER CALCULATIONS WE HAVE GATHERED RECENTLY FROM VARIOUS INFORMED BUSINESS, GOS AND GON SOURCES HERE. MOST INFORMANTS EXPECT DEPARTURE PACE TO QUICKEN AS INDEPENDENCE APPROACHES AND APPREHENSIONS BECOME MORE ACUTE OVER WHAT THE NEW ORDER MAY BRING.

2. PRIOR ELECTION OF CREOLE-DOMINATED COALITION GOVT LATE 1973, EMIGRANTS WERE MOSTLY POOR CREOLES SEEKING JOBS OR THE DUTCH DOLE. NOW, RELATIVELY WELL-OFF EAST INDIANS AND SOME CHINESE COMPRISE BULK OF DEPARTEES. ONE SOURCE ESTIMATES  
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RATIO AS HIGH AS SEVENTY PERCENT ASIAN, THIRTY PERCENT CREOLE WHERE A YEAR OR SO AGO PROPORTION WAS THE REVERSE. INDONESIANS,

UP-COUNTRY PRIMITIVES, AND LEBANESE, THE LATTER WELL-ENTRENCHED IN TRADE AND GENERALLY APOLITICAL, APPEAR RELATIVELY UNAFFECTED BY URGE TO DEPART.

3. ALTHOUGH SOME ASIANS SELLING OFF POSSESSIONS AND LAND, OTHERS ARE LEAVING TRUSTED FAMILY MEMBERS BEHIND TO LOOK AFTER PROPERTY OR BUSINESS WHILE BALANCING ADVANTAGES OF REMAINING PERMANENTLY IN HOLLAND AND OBSERVING INDEPENDENCE PERIOD FROM AFAR. NUMBERS UNKNOWN HOPE TO RETURN IF WORST FEARS OF RACIAL DISTURBANCES AND ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION UNREALIZED AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

4. ASIDE FROM SERIOUS DRAIN OF COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS EXODUS REPRESENTS, CRAFTSMEN (CARPENTERS, PLUMBERS) NOTICEABLY SCARCER. EVEN POLICE HAVE BEGUN TO FEEL PINCH AS TRAINED MEMBERS OF FORCE DEPART. LARGE ADS NOW APPEARING IN PRESS TO RECRUIT REPLACEMENTS.

5. CONGEN SOURCES ESTIMATE AS MANY AS 150,000 SURINAMERS WILL BE RESIDING MORE OR LESS PERMANENTLY IN HOLLAND BY INDEPENDENCE IF DEC. 1975 DATE HOLDS. THIS WOULD MEAN GAIN OF 70,000 OVER 80,000 NOW LIVING THERE, 50,000 OF WHOM ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE ARRIVED OVER LAST FIVE YEARS. WE THINK THIS IS ON HIGH SIDE AND CONSIDER PERHAPS 125,000 A MORE REALISTIC MAXIMUM, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PREDICTED MONTHLY INCREASES IN EMIGRATION AS INDEPENDENCE NEARS.

6. COMMENT: IF ESTIMATED CURRENT PERMANENT DEPARTURES WERE TO GO UP ONLY SLIGHTLY IN COMING MONTHS, IT WOULD MEAN OVER TEN PERCENT OF INHABITANTS THIS UNDER-POPULATED COUNTRY WILL HAVE LEFT DURING 16 MONTHS REMAINING BEFORE INDEPENDENCE DUE TO COME. THIS TEN PERCENT REPRESENTS ENTREPRENEURIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE SURINAM MOST NEEDS, PLUS THE CAPITAL WHICH WILL SEEP OUT WITH ITS OWNERS.

7. ESTIMATES OF CURRENT EMIGRATION FLOW AND FORECASTS OF PROBABLE INDEPENDENCE DAY TOTALS ARE INFLUENCED BY DIFFICULTY OF DISTINGUISHING SOJOURNERS FROM STAYERS-ON DURING CURRENT VACATION SEASON. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT DRAIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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IS MASSIVE IN TERMS TOTAL PRODUCTIVE POPULATION, SERIOUS IN ITS ECONOMIC AND NATION-BUILDING IMPLICATIONS, AND LIKELY BECOME MORE SO.  
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